

# Boston Connects people to economic opportunity

A 501(c)3 Not-For-Profit Community Organization in Partnership with the City of Boston

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### **Dudley Square's Ferdinand Project Revived by \$65 million City Commitment**

Invested in Dudley Square's Ferdinand building since the project's beginning in 1999, Boston Connects Inc. celebrates Mayor Thomas M. Menino's December 16, 2004 announcement that the City of Boston will acquire, fully renovate, and relocate

several government agencies to the site.



Future Vision of a revitalized Ferdinand Building in Roxbury's Dudley Square

Mayor Thomas M. Menino said, "We are seizing this opportunity to spur further revitalization in Dudley Square and make good on a commitment to this community."

The \$65 million revitalization project expects to generate 1,200 jobs in the area. BCI commends the City for its continued investment in Dudley Square and the individuals, families, and communities of Boston's Empowerment Zone.

### **Strategic Vision for Change**

Boston Connects, Inc.'s long-term vision for the Empowerment Zone (EZ) is improved economic self-sufficiency for individuals, families and communities. With the leadership of a 24-member governing board, BCI has been successful in linking Empowerment Zone residents and neighborhoods with new economic opportunity -

through job creation, daycare, skills training, pre-GED and GED classes, ESOL, and technology training. Investments in brick and mortar projects and access to federal tax benefits have improved the climate for Zone businesses.

The EZ includes 5.8 square miles of some of the City's most vibrant and diverse neighborhoods. Its 57,432 residents, roughly 10% of the City's population, live in Chinatown, Dorchester, Jamaica Plain, Mission Hill, Roxbury, the Seaport District, South Boston, and the South End.

### Special in this Newsletter

- Annual Meeting ~ (page 10)
- CORI Initiative ~ (page 4)
- ~ BCI Programs ~ (pages 6 to 8)



Thomas M. Menino, Mayor of Boston

### **President's Report**

By George R. "Chip" Greenidge Jr., Board President Making The Boston EZ Work for You!



George R. "Chip" Greenidge, BCI Board President

Entering our sixth year, Boston Connects, Inc. continues its mission of improving the economic self-sufficiency of Boston's Empowerment Zone (EZ). This past year we've invested over \$3 million in education and job readiness, job skills training, technology

training, and other programs that remove barriers to economic self-sufficiency. Since inception in 1999, BCl has invested \$15 million in the Zone's individuals, families, businesses, and communities.

BCI is increasing economic partnerships as a means of maximizing opportunities to move its mission forward despite decreased federal funds. Leveraging new dollars and resources will help BCI improve and expand services in the EZ.

To ensure the Zone constituency is fully heard, in the year ahead BCI will convene meetings with neighborhood residents, businesses, and community stakeholders.

BCI is in the process of refining itself as an organization. The BCI Board of Directors has enrolled in Executive Service Corps' (ESC) "Building Boards" program. A poll taken at the start of the program reconfirmed that the BCI Board is dedicated, energetic, and determined to improve life in Boston's Empowerment Zone. The ESC "Building Boards" program will help strengthen the Board's ability to oversee the implementation of the Empowerment Zone Strategic Plan. The generosity of the State Street Foundation has helped make this program possible.

The Empowerment Zone is making significant strides in economic growth. The EZ communities of Roxbury, South Boston, Chinatown, Dorchester, and the Waterfront will bring our city together like never before. We have the diversity, desire and, increasingly, the economic partnerships for vibrant and sustainable economic growth.

This newsletter will highlight our economic partnerships and various program initiatives that

remove barriers to economic self-sufficiency. With continued commitment from Mayor Thomas M. Menino and partnership from a dynamic Zone constituency, Boston Connects is excited about this next phase of making the Empowerment Zone's vitality a reality!

Join us in our efforts to continue to build strong communities throughout the EZ!

### **Shirley Carrington Named Acting Executive Director**

BCI is pleased to announce that Shirley Carrington has agreed to serve as Acting Executive Director of

Boston Connects, Inc. during the search for a new Executive Director.

Ms. Carrington has been Deputy Directory of the Empowerment Zone Initiative since 1995. Additionally, Ms. Carrington has previously served as: Executive Director of Roxbury Multi-Service



Shirley Carrington, Acting Executive Director

Center; Deputy Director of Boston Private Industry Council; and Deputy Director of Lena Park Development Corp.

BCI thanks Ms. Carrington for her continued and dedicated service to Boston's Empowerment Zone.

### **BCI Seeks New Executive Director**

BCI is currently seeking a new Executive Director. In this effort, the Board of Directors has established an Executive Director Search Committee.

The Committee consists of appointed and community-elected Board members, including:



George "Chip" Greenidge; Joan Wallace-Benjamin; Joelee Baker-Bay; Ralph Cooper; and Charlotte Golar Richie.

Stay tuned for updates on BCl's Executive Director search!

# **Economic Development &**Job Creation

### The Crosstown Center Development, Crosstown

On June 30, 2004 the Hampton Inn & Suites at

Boston Crosstown Center opened for business!

Crosstown Center is the "Gateway to the 21st Century Boston" – creating easier access and increased links between the Zone



Crosstown's Hampton Inn & Suites is open for business!

and downtown colleges and universities, shopping, museums and restaurants.

Located at the intersection of Melnea Cass Boulevard and Massachusetts Avenue, the 175room hotel and parking structure marked Phase I. Phase II is in progress and will include ground floor retail, a restaurant, and office space. A landscaped bike path on Melnea Cass Boulevard will connect the community to the waterfront.

# Katsiroubas Brothers, Newmarket Square

Backed by \$2.8 million in EZ bonds, on May 17, 2004 Katsiroubas Brothers fruit and wholesale distributors celebrated the grand opening of their new facility in Newmarket Square in Roxbury. The



Katsiroubas Brothers ribbon-cutting celebration on May 17 in Newmarket Square

building was expanded by an additional 16,800 square feet by adding a second floor over the existing building. Fifteen new jobs are expected.

In business since 1916, Katsiroubas Brothers is a third-generation fruit and produce distributor. BCI joins Mayor Menino and the Back Streets business team in congratulating Katsiroubas Brothers on their expanded business in Boston's Empowerment Zone!

# Palmer Warren Street Development, Dudley Square

On October 5, 2004 BCI joined Mayor Thomas M. Menino, Bishop Gilbert A. Thompson, and representatives from the Massachusetts Housing Investment Corporation (MHIC) in Breaking Ground for Palmer Street Development.

Boston Connects, Inc. invested \$1.9 million in the project's development through U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Section 108/EDI funds. Total development costs for the project amount to \$9,285,900.

This economic development project is being developed by New Covenant Christian Church. A 30,000 square foot, 3-story office/retail building will be the first new commercial construction in Dudley Square in 40 years. Occupancy is expected in fall 2005.

BCI Board and Ex-Officio Members in attendance included: George "Chip" Greenidge, Board President; Charlotte Golar Richie, Director, DND, and chief of housing; City Councilor Chuck Turner; Mark Maloney, Director, Boston Redevelopment Authority.



The Palmer Warren Street development breaks ground on October 5, Dudley Square's first new commercial construction in 40 years

BCI News Flash:
Sovereign Bank Invests in Boston's EZ.
Turn to Page 5 to learn more!

### **Summer Jobs**

Boston Connects, Inc. understands the importance of keeping teenagers in productive activities and safely off the streets. For the third consecutive summer, BCI made a major investment in the summer employment of Empowerment Zone (EZ)



2004, BCI invested \$1,000,000 in summer vouth employment. providing 800 EZ

vouth. In summer

Summer Youth Celebration at Ramsey Field, August 2004

youth aged 14 to 17, and 18 years old returning to high school with paid employment. Zone youth benefited from these funds by working in community based organizations, non-profits and public agencies in or in proximity to the Zone in a School-to-Career learning model.

The \$1,000,000 investment served more youth than in preceding years. In 2003, BCI invested \$750,000 in summer employment opportunities for approximately 550 low-income Zone youth; in 2002, the EZ disbursed \$500,000 to 410 youth in support of summer jobs.

In addition to paid, professional employment, the program included a skills training component. Participants learned resume preparation, financial literacy, and life skills; they prepared portfolios of their work experience. These skills and tools will assist youth in building a solid foundation for future employment success.

BCI thanks partners ABCD, Boston Center for Youth and Families, and the Boston Private Industry Council for their work in administering the 2004 summer program.

On August 10, 2004, BCI Board members and staff celebrated the program's success with Mayor Thomas M. Menino, our partnering organizations, and EZ Summer Job program participants in a barbeque celebration in Ramsey Park.

### **Education and Job Readiness CORI Workshops**

Supporting residents to re-enter their communities and families after incarceration helps create economic self-sufficiency in the Empowerment Zone.

BCI's Ex-Offender Initiative sponsors Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) Workshops as an ongoing effort to assist ex-offenders postincarceration.

Employers and other human resource managers are provided information on how to read the CORI.



Employers learn how to read CORI at BCI's October 18 workshop

thereby hopefully increasing employment opportunities for Zone ex-offenders.

As a part of BCI's continued commitment to Zone ex-offenders, BCI sponsored a CORI workshop on October 18, 2004.

### **Ex-Offender Advisory Committee**

BCI welcomes you to join the Ex-Offender Advisory Committee. As community collaboration is crucial for a successful program, we need your partnership in working to reduce barriers to self-sufficiency for Zone ex-offenders. Contact BCI at 617-541-2670 to learn more about the Committee.

### **Technology**

BCI sponsors a series of programs for residents to obtain computer skills in aims of bridging the digital divide. It is important for Zone residents to develop the basic computer skills required for officebased employment, and to generally have better access to technology.

continued on next page...

### **BCI Tax Incentives**

Remember that parts of the Financial District, Downtown Crossing, Chinatown, the Leather District, the South Boston Seaport, South End, South Boston, Roxbury, Mission Hill, and Dorchester are all in the Empowerment Zone!

Using a combination of employee- and businessrelated credits can result in businesses gaining thousands of dollars in tax credits, which can affect the bottom line.

To fill the continued need to fully understand the variety of credits available, BCI continues to host workshops to explain these benefits. The next workshop will be in March 2005.

Visit **www.BostonEZ.org** or call 617-541-2670 for more information on the workshop and to find out whether your business is located in the Zone or if your employees are Zone residents!

### Tax Incentive Workshop Scheduled for March

If you are a job developer, case manager, human resource specialist, business owner, tax attorney or accountant, it is to your benefit to understand the tax credits available to businesses. The next workshop will be in March 2005. Visit **www.BostonEZ.org** or call BCI at 617-541-2670 for updates.

The Fidelity Bonding Program: Give someone a second chance in employment

BCI has Fidelity Bonds available. The Fidelity Bonding Program is designed to give qualified job-seekers a second chance, should they face a barrier to employment such as having formerly been incarcerated, substance abuse issues, or other reason that might be a barrier to economic self-sufficiency. The Fidelity Bonding Program offers a business and insurance policy that protects an employer against any possible losses incurred due to actions by such employees. Further, it gives employers an incentive to hire qualified job seekers who might otherwise be unable to find work.

In conjunction to the Fidelity Bond program, employers who hire Zone residents also qualify for EZ tax credits. Visit **www.BostonEZ.org** or call BCI for more information.

### Sovereign Bank Makes \$25 Million Available for Loans and Investments in Massachusetts Empowerment Zones

On December 1, 2004 Sovereign Bank joined the Massachusetts Community Advisory Committee ("CAC") in announcing its Community Investment Agreement, a new 5-year \$3.6 Billion community investment plan.

As part of this plan, Sovereign Bank will make available \$25 million in loans and investments in the Boston Empowerment Zone, Worcester and Springfield.

Senator Dianne Wilkerson, ex-officio BCI Board Member, stated, "In this climate of shrinking corporate presence and rapid consolidation and mergers of financial institutions, committed to serving its most needy and often underserved customer base, Sovereign Bank stands tall." Senator Wilkerson has served as the Convener and lead negotiator of the CAC since 1998.

George "Chip" Greenidge, BCI Board President, stated, "Sovereign's investment commitment to Boston's Empowerment Zone is especially important given reductions in federal funding".



BCI's George Greenidge with: Sovereign Bank's Sonya Alleyne; Bruce Bickerstaff; Sovereign Bank's Ron Walker; Sen. Dianne Wilkerson; Donovan Walker

### **Current BCI Programs**

The following is a current list of programs funded through Boston Connects, Inc. and available to Empowerment Zone residents who quality. We encourage you to call us at (617) 541-2670 for more information on all programs. To verify if an address is in the Empowerment Zone, visit BCl's website, www.BostonEZ.org, and click "Am I in the Zone?" under "About the Zone" on the left.

# **Community Capacity Building Programs**

### **EZ Capacity Building Institute**

The EZ Institute will improve the efficiency and self-sufficiency of participating community and faith based organizations through: 1) specific skill development among participants; and 2) the development of organizational capacity products such as mission statement, budget, technology implementation plan, etc. for each trainee organization. The courses will be offered over a 7-month period, starting in January 2005.

# Health and Well Being Programs Family Opportunity Networks

An integral part of BCI's strategic plan is to provide quality, efficient and non-duplicative continuum of care services for Zone residents. Family Opportunity Networks provide "one-stop shopping" so that a family's needs may be met in a comprehensive and effective manner. Providers listed below receive funding from BCI to assist Zone residents on issues such as: mental health/substance abuse, healthcare, child/adolescent development, legal advocacy, job placement and housing.

#### **Boston Centers for Youth and Families**

1483 Tremont Street, Boston (617) 635-4920 x2224

**Brookview House** (617) 265-2965 2 Brookview Street, Dorchester

Catholic Charities / Labouré Center 275 West Broadway, So. Boston (617) 268-9670

### Family Opportunity Networks (continued)

**Jewish Vocational Services** (617) 451-8147 105 Chauncy Street, Boston

Mission Main Resident Services (617) 869-0957 41 Smith Street, Roxbury

### **Economic Development Programs** *Micro-Lending Program*

BCI has partnered with Dorchester Bay Economic Development Corp., a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI), to establish a revolving loan pool, and pre- and post-loan business technical assistance support services for Zone microbusinesses, companies with two to eight employees. Access to loans and technical assistance helps micro-businesses expand, maintain or increase profitability, and become more bankable, i.e. increase their access to more conventional loan capital.

Upon approval, existing businesses with 2 to 8 employees located within the Empowerment Zone are eligible for \$500 to \$25,000 loans.

### **Dorchester Bay Economic Development Corp.** (DBEDC) (617) 825-4200

594 Columbia Road, Suite 302, Dorchester x219 Email: dmacleod@dbedc.com

### **Technology Programs Community Technology Education**

It is important for Zone residents to develop and sharpen their computer skills. Competence in word processing and web searches are basic skills required for most jobs and, increasingly, for educational programs and advancement. Children, youth and adults can access these opportunities:

Parker Hill/Fenway NSC (617) 445-6000 714 Parker St., Mission Hill

**South Boston Action Center** (617) 269-5160 424 West Broadway, South Boston

continued on next page...

### **Community Technology Education (cont.)**

**The Timothy Smith Network** (617) 968-3653 TSN Network Centers are located throughout Greater Roxbury.

**Vine St. Community Center** (617) 635-4920 339 Dudley St., Roxbury

### Intergenerational Technology Education

Boston Connects, Inc. is funding programs for family units to learn basic computer programs. Upon successful completion of the 10-week class, families may purchase a low interest computer and printer; and receive one year of free internet access and technology support. Anyone interested should contact:

**Action for Boston Community Development** 19 Temple Place, Boston (617) 348-6546

**Madison Park Development Corporation**2201 Washington St., Roxbury (617) 541-3900 x235

**Roxbury Multi-Service Center** 317 Blue Hill Avenue. Roxbury (617) 989-0209

# **Education and Job Readiness Programs**

### **Ex-Offender Re-Entry Case Management**

BCI recognizes the unique barriers to economic self-sufficiency faced by Zone ex-offenders. The organizations listed below are funded by BCI to provide integrated case management and job placement services to ex-offender Zone residents. The program emphasizes progression toward employment and supports reintegration through comprehensive services, including: job readiness; job training; CORI review and update; housing stabilization; financial literacy; mental and physical health; substance abuse and recovery; life skills; and, ultimately, work experience for individuals to capitalize on their aptitudes and opportunity.

### Ex-Offender Re-Entry Case Management (continued)

**Boston Ten Point Coalition** (617) 524-4331 215 Forest Hills Street, Jamaica Plain

### South End Neighborhood Action Program (SNAP) (617) 267-7400

544 Columbus Avenue, Boston

#### **Ex-Offender Services**

The Ex-Offender Advisory Committee's mission is to assist Zone ex-offenders in successful community re-entry and achievement of economic self-sufficiency. The Committee aims to build community collaboration and partnerships. Contact BCI at 617-541-2670 to learn more about the Ex-Offender Advisory Committee.

### **Graduate Equivalency Diploma**

Most jobs require candidates to have a High School or a Graduate Equivalency Diploma (GED). In many instances, GED programs are at capacity and Zone residents need to wait until there is an opening. However, Boston Connects, Inc. funds additional seats specifically available to Zone residents at the following locations:

**Bridge Over Troubled Waters** (617) 482-5459 43 West St., Downtown Boston

#### **Dimock Community Health Center**

55 Dimock St., Roxbury (617) 442-8800 x1277

### **Graduate Equivalency Diploma at South Bay House of Corrections**

Incarcerated Zone residents at South Bay may earn their Graduate Equivalency Diploma (GED). Having the GED reduces one more barrier toward re-entry into the work force.

Boston Connects, Inc. is funding approximately 80 seats at the South Bay House of Corrections for residents with roots in the Empowerment Zone. For more information or if you know someone at South Bay House of Corrections who might be interested, contact:

**X-Cel Adult Education** (617) 522-2590 23 Vernon Street, Mission Hill

# **Education and Job Readiness Programs (cont.)**

### **Career Center Skills Training**

Boston Connects, Inc. continues its commitment to Zone residents thinking about a new career, planning a career change, or needing to upgrade skills for their current jobs. For Zone residents who qualify, this training is available at no cost.

At each Career Center, Zone residents will receive: a full assessment of their skills; a choice of programs to meet their career needs; a training program; and, upon successful completion, assistance with resume writing and job search.

Interested Zone residents should contact one of the following Career Centers:

Boston CareerLink (617) 536-1888

1010 Harrison Ave., Roxbury

**JobNet** (617) 338-0809

210 South St., Boston

WorkPlace (617) 737-0093

99 Chauncy St., Boston

Specialized skills training opportunities include: Appliance Repair; Medical Assisting; Property Management; Office Skills; Desktop/Web Support; and Telecommunications.

### Additional Skills Training Opportunites

Seats are also available for Zone residents in the following programs:

#### **Action for Boston Community Development**

19 Temple Place, Boston (617) 348-6546 Appliance Repair

#### **Dimock Community Health Center**

55 Dimock St., Roxbury (617) 442-8800 Medical Assisting x1219

#### Madison Park Development Corporation

2201 Washington St., Roxbury (617) 541-3900 Property Management x224

#### Morgan Memorial Goodwill Industries

1010 Harrison Ave., Roxbury (617) 541-1244 Office Skills

### Additional Skills Training Opportunites (continued)

#### Year Up

1010 Harrison Avenue, Roxbury (617) 542-1533 Computer Support

(617) 445-8887

YouthBuild Boston 504 Dudley St., Roxbury Telecommunications

### For More Information

Boston Connects, Inc. posts announcements in community newspapers and online at **www.BostonEZ.org**. BCI encourages you to reference these news sources regularly for updates.

Call BCI at 617-541-2670, stop by our office at 2201 Washington Street, or visit **www.BostonEZ.org** for updates.

### **Upcoming Events**

In the year ahead, BCI will sponsor important programs for Empowerment Zone residents, non-profits, and community groups, including:

- Capacity Building Institute for Communityand Faith-based Organizations;
- Ex-Offender Initiative;
- Tax incentive Workshops:
- Family Opportunity Network;
- Micro-Loan Lending Program.

More information is in this Newsletter and online at www.BostonEZ.org!

### **Meet Program Participants**



Sergio Morales, Technolog Goes Home Coordinator Sergio Morales is the Technology Goes Home (TGH) Coordinator at the Allston Brighton Community Development Corporation in Allston as a result of Boston Connects, Inc.-funded A+ and IT Networking certification training.

In search of improved economic opportunity for himself and his family, Mr. Morales moved to the US from Guatemala in search of the American dream - that through hard work, courage and determination one can achieve prosperity. Mr. Morales brought his education and experience with him: a high school degree and experience as an elementary school teacher.

In the U.S., Mr. Morales focused on learning English and working available jobs, including food service, restaurant work, facilities maintenance and environmental upkeep. Like many immigrants he not only needed to support himself, but also his family in Guatemala.

An Empowerment Zone resident, Mr. Morales enrolled in BCI-sponsored A+ and IT Networking certification training programs operated by Madison Park Development Corporation (MPDC), Computer Learning Resources Center (Mandela), and the Millennium Training Institute. Mr. Morales successfully completed the program and was awarded certification by Millenium Training Institute.

Upon completion in August 2004, Mr. Morales accepted the position of Technology Goes Home (TGH) Coordinator at the Allston Brighton Community Development Corporation in Allston. Mr. Morales brings his enthusiasm for teaching and underlying belief that "Life is wonderful!" to his job.

Mr. Morales thanks BCI for helping him meet his career and self-sufficiency goals for himself, family, and community.

#### **Meet Kimberley Mitchell**

Kim's perspective: BCI's Intergenerational Technology Education Program provided me with the tools to pursue my dreams. As a result of the program, I am now more employable, a happier parent, better educated, and more determined. The program allowed me to spend quality time with my daughter while sharing the experience of learning computer technology.

I've developed an encouraging support system through people I've met in BCI's Technology Program administered by Madison Park, Technology Goes Home. I now have this bond with the program director, Nyvia Colon, and other technology families. Nyvia is my true inspiration; she always informs me about any upcoming programs that she believes will benefit me and my child.

While in the program I spoke frequently about my dream to attend college and earn my bachelors degree. One day Ms. Colon gave me a scholarship application and, with her help and support, I received a full scholarship to Simmons College as a marketing communications major.



BCI's Intergenerational Technology Education Program gives families opportunity, hope, and support. My daughter is now participating in a design team as a result of this program, and she loves it. I am now a more determined person, a happier parent, and am achieving my dreams. This BCI-sponsored program energizes you to pursue your dreams and better yourself.

# Welcome New Board Members

In January, 2004, BCI welcomed **George "Chip" Greenidge** as new Board President. Mr. Greenidge has been an appointed member of the BCI Board since 2000. Mr. Greenidge is Executive Director and Founder of the National Black College Alliance.

BCI welcomes new community-elected Board Member, **Jane Talbot**, representing EZ District 4 in South Boston.

BCI congratulates **Julia Flashner** for her reelection to the Board for a 3-year term. Ms. Flashner represents EZ District 5 in South Boston.

BCI welcomes new Mayoral-appointed Board Members: Larry Mayes, Chief of Human Services, City of Boston; Rev. Roland C. McCall, Pastor of Grant A.M.E. Church in Roxbury; and Dr. Joan Wallace-Benjamin, President and CEO, Home for Little Wanderers.

### **BCI Annual Meeting**

Boston Connects, Inc.'s Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 12th, 2005 at 6:00 p.m. at the Hampton Inn and Suites at Boston Crosstown Center, 811 Massachusetts Avenue. This year BCI will highlight and celebrate the many economic partnerships established since incorporation.

The keynote speaker is Rev. Conrad B. Tillard, Interim Pastor, Eliot Congregational Church of Roxbury. Rev. Tillard comes to Boston from Harlem, NY and has been involved with the Harlem Empowerment Zone.

The Community Partnership Award will be presented to State Senator Dianne Wilkerson; a Special Recognition will be awarded to Ms. Juanita B. Wade, Former Chief of Human Services for the City of Boston.

All are welcome to attend. Parking is available and will be validated at the Hotel. Please R.S.V.P. to (617) 541-2679.

### Harvard Business School Fellow at BCI

BCI welcomes **Amit Doshi**, Harvard Business School fellow and non-voting member of the BCI Board. BCI looks forward to working with Mr. Doshi over the next six months and continued partnership with the HBS fellows program. Mr. Doshi will perform an external audit of Empowerment Zone functions.

### Thank You for Your Service to BCI

Over the past year, BCI has experienced changes in leadership. However, we will continue our steadfast strive to serve the residents of the EZ and advance the BCI mission.

BCI thanks **Christine Araujo**. Earlier this year, BCI's first Executive Director, Christine Araujo, departed the organization. Ms. Araujo brought skillful and effective oversight to BCI, executing program priorities and developing increased economic opportunities for Zone residents. BCI thanks Ms. Araujo for her dedicated service, responsible stewardship, and gives best wishes for her future endeavors.

BCI thanks **Michael Vance**. Mr. Vance served as BCI's inaugural Board President, since March 2000. BCI thanks Mr. Vance for his service to Zone residents.

BCI thanks **Juanita Wade**. Ms. Wade, former Chief of Human Services, City of Boston, was instrumental in the initial Empowerment Zone application to U.S. HUD. BCI thanks Ms. Wade for her service to Zone residents and extends best wishes to her future endeavors.

BCI thanks **John Wagner**, **Joanne Hilferty**, and **Tom Yee** for their service to Boston's Empowerment Zone.

### **Boston Connects, Inc. Board of Directors**

#### Officers

George Greenidge President

Robert Kinney
Vice President

Mike Foley Treasurer

Gloria Coney Clerk

#### **Members**

Minister Joelee Baker-Bey Roxbury

Ralph Cooper Veterans Benefits Clearinghouse

Julia Flashner South Boston

Michael Glavin

Bank of America

Charlotte Golar Richie DND, City of Boston

Betty Greene Roxbury

Mark Maloney

Boston Redevelopment Authority

Larry Mayes
Human Services, City of Boston

Reverend Roland C. McCall Grant A.M.E. Church

Elizabeth Miranda Dorchester

Valerie Pruitt Roxbury Jayne Talbot South Boston

Frederick Umeh Roxbury

Dr. Joan Wallace-Benjamin

Home for Little Wanderers

#### **Ex-Officio Members**

Senator Edward Kennedy United States Senate

Senator John Kerry
United States Senate

Congressman Michael Capuano
U.S. House of Representatives, D8

Congressman Stephen Lynch U.S. House of Representatives, D9

Senator Jack Hart

Massachusetts State Senate

Senator Dianne Wilkerson

Massachusetts State Senate

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Councilor Charles Yancey
Boston City Council

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Regional Director Brian Cresta
U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Srvcs

District Attorney Daniel Conley Suffolk County

Executive Director John Auerbach
Boston Public Health Commission

Administrator Sandra Henriquez Boston Housing Authority

Commissioner Kathleen O'Toole Boston Police Department

Supterintendent Thomas Payzant Boston Public Schools

Sergeant Tony Fonseca
Boston Police Department





Joining in the celebration with Zone youth (below) are BCl's Shirley Carrington with Board Members Roberta Williams, Mark Maloney, Gloria Coney, Charlotte Golar Richie, Liz Miranda; the Honorable Thomas M. Menino; and BCl Board Members George Greenidge and Joelee Baker-Bey.

BCI News Flash: \$1,000,000 Invested in Zone Youth In Summer 2004, BCI provided 800 Zone youth summer employment and training through a \$1,000,000 investment.



Boston Connects, Inc. 2201 Washington Street Boston, MA 02119

